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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY DAKAR IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 000993

NODIS

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: PFOR, AO, US, FR

SUBJECT: TALKING POINTS FOR AMBASSADOR SCHAUFELLE'S

-- MEETING

FOR AMBASSADOR SCHAUFELLE FROM THE SECRETARY

1. BEFORE YOUR MEETING WITH FRENCH OFFICIALS ON ANGOLA,
YOU SHOULD BE AWARE OF SEVERAL RECENT DEVELOPMENTS THAT
WILL AFFECT YOUR DISCUSSION:

-- AROUND DECEMBER 18, PRESIDENT GISCARD SENT A LETTER
TO 13 AFRICAN FRANCOPHONE STATES REPORTEDLY URGING
THEM TO SUPPORT AN OAU SUMMIT RECOMMENDATION CALLING
FOR AN END TO ALL FOREIGN INVOLVEMENT IN ANGOLA AND THE
ESTABLISHMENT OF A GOVERNMENT OF NATIONAL UNITY, AND
ENCOURAGING CONTINUED DIALOGUE ON THE ANGOLAN SITUATION.

-- WE INFORMED THE FRENCH HERE OF THE BROAD OUTLINES

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OF OUR PLAN TO SEND A MILITARY SURVEY TEAM TO GABON.

-- IT APPEARS THE SOUTH AFRICANS INTEND TO WITHDRAW ALL THEIR FORCES FROM ANGOLA BEFORE THE OAU SUMMIT.

2. ISSUES/TALKING POINTS:

A) RESULTS OF YOUR TRIP:

-- TO THE DEGREE APPROPRIATE, YOU SHOULD INFORM THE FRENCH OF THE RESULTS OF YOUR CONVERSATIONS WITH AFRICAN LEADERS AND SOLICIT JOURNIACS IMPRESSIONS BASED ON HIS OWN RECENT VISIT TO THE AREA.

-- YOU SHOULD REPEAT TO THE FRENCH THE OBJECTIVES OF YOUR VISIT, EMPHASIZING OUR DESIRE TO INSURE OUR AFRICAN FRIENDS WERE FULLY AWARE OF OUR INTENTION TO REMAIN INVOLVED IN ANGOLA AND TO RESIST THE SOVIET ATTEMPT TO IMPOSE A CLIENT REGIME ON THAT COUNTRY.

-- YOU SHOULD SEE JOURNIAC FIRST AND GET HIS INSTRUCTIONS ON HOW MUCH TO TELL THE QUAI.

B) SOUTH AFRICA:

-- YOU SHOULD ASK THE FRENCH FOR THEIR ASSESSMENT OF THE LIKELIHOOD AND DEGREE OF A SOUTH AFRICAN WITHDRAWAL FROM ANGOLA AS WELL AS THE POSSIBLE MILITARY AND POLITICAL CONSEQUENCES.

-- IF NOT RAISED BY THE FRENCH, YOU SHOULD ASK IF THEIR PLANS WOULD BE IN ANY WAY ALTERED AS A RESULT OF A SAG PULLOUT.

-- REITERATE TO THEM OUR INTENTION TO STICK TO THE AGREED POLICY IN ANGOLA REGARDLESS OF THE SOUTH AFRICAN DECISION AND ASK IF THEY HAVE ANY SUGGESTIONS ON STEPS WE CAN TAKE, SEPARATELY OR JOINTLY, TO FILL THE VACUUM.

C) OAU SUMMIT:

-- SUGGEST THAT WE NEED TO COORDINATE CLOSELY OUR DIPLOMATIC EFFORTS BEFORE AND DURING THE SUMMIT TO
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INSURE WE EXERT THE MAXIMUM INFLUENCE ON A WIDE RANGE OF LEADERS AT THE PROPER TIMES. EXPRESS THE DANGER WE SEE OF A VICTORY BY THE OAU RADICALS UNLESS OUR FRIENDS PERSONALLY ATTEND THE SUMMIT AND FORCEFULLY ARGUE THEIR CASE. SUGGEST WE BOTH INSTRUCT OUR AMBASSADORS IN ADDIS TO COOPERATE CLOSELY WITH ONE ANOTHER DURING THE OAU MEETINGS.

-- TELL HIM OUR PROPOSAL FOR THE SUMMIT.

-- EXPRESS OUR PLEASURE OVER GISCARD'S LETTER TO THE
FRANCOPHONE STATES, QUERY REGARDING ANY RESPONSES TO THE

LETTER, AND MENTION PRESIDENT FORD'S INTENTION TO SEND
A SIMILAR LETTER TO VARIOUS STATES IN EARLY JANUARY.

D) GABON:

-- MENTION TO THE FRENCH OUR DECISION, IN RESPONSE TO A
REQUEST BY BONGO, TO SEND A MILITARY SURVEY TEAM OF
THREE OFFICERS TO GABON ON JANUARY 5. THE VISIT IS TO
LAST ABOUT 10 DAYS AND THE PURPOSE IS TO CONSULT WITH
GABON ON THEIR DEFENSE NEEDS AND TO PREPARE RECOMMENDA-
TIONS FOR IMPROVEMENT IN THEIR ARMS AND FORCES.

-- REITERATE THAT THE VISIT IS NOT DESIGNED TO USURP AN
AREA OF NORMAL FRENCH INFLUENCE BUT RATHER TO DEMONSTRATE
TO BONGO AND OTHERS THAT WE INTEND TO REMAIN INVOLVED IN
AFRICA AND TO ASSIST FRIENDLY STATES TO IMPROVE THEIR
SECURITY. INGERSOLL

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